



Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

# Weekly Views

From the Office of J. David Donahue, Commissioner

***"There are no secrets to success—don't waste time looking for them. Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence."***

***Colin Powell, US General***

***-submitted by Tim Brown of Central Office and SERT***

Friday, February 8, 2008

The Northwest Indiana Community Advisory Board for WCC, ISP and Camp Summit met at WCC. A primary topic was how to better publicize the **ALERT** program locally.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation ceremony on for seven juvenile offenders. This is the 11<sup>th</sup> graduation from the unit since its December 2005 inception. There have been a total of 84 juveniles that have graduated from the program.

Putnamville Correctional Facility staff represented the facility's and IDOC's "green" efforts by displaying literature and video at a "Sustainability Expo" held at DePauw University. The Expo was a component of the university's participation in Focus the Nation, a nationwide dialogue and education forum focusing on global warming and its impact on our communities, economy and ecosystems.

Through a partnership between the Department of Correction and the Department of Transportation (INDOT), four residents of the Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility have completed on-the-job training with INDOT and upon release have been hired as full-time State employees. This opportunity is paving the way for future offenders to successfully re-enter society with gainful employment.

Indiana State Prison sent seven (7) care packages this week to staff deployed in the military.

The Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility assisted Workforce, Inc. with their Annual Post-Holiday Recycling Extravaganza. Donating recyclables allows Workforce, Inc. to continue to provide employment opportunities to men with felony convictions who have been released from the Indiana Department of Correction.

The Indiana State Prison Shifting Gears Program donated 23 bikes: 14 bikes to Elston Middle School, five to needy children, and four to Stepping Stones Shelter, which also received two bike racks.

Representatives from the Marion County Public Defenders Agency toured Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility. Several information sessions were conducted throughout the facility where key personnel answered the attorneys' questions and concerns.

Camp Summit recognized five students for successfully completing the Aramark Inmate to Workmate vocational program for food service. This comprehensive program is designed with students in mind that have expressed interest in food service as a career. To date, Camp Summit has had a grand total of 21 students successfully complete the Program.

Ms. Emily Slavens, a Culinary Arts graduate, instructed offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility on food preparation and placement. Ms. Slavens served as a guest instructor for Ms. Clevenger's Culinary Arts Vocational Training class.